

Patent Application Number: 10/045,368

In the Claims

1. (Currently Amended) ~~A system. An apparatus for the secure securing physical attachment of a secondary device to a primary device, comprising:~~

~~a first device having a first inter-connection attachment means member, said first inter-connection attachment member in physical association with said first device having one a first predefined non-rectangular geometric shape;~~

~~said first inter-connection attachment member including a sensor;~~

~~a second device having a second inter-connection attachment means member, said second inter-connection attachment member in physical association with said second device, having a second predefined non-rectangular geometric shape, said second predefined non-rectangular geometric shape and said first predefined non-rectangular geometric shape enabling said second inter-connection attachment member to mate with said first inter-connection attachment member wherein said second shape physically mates with said first geometric shape; and~~

~~a securing member engaging said first and second inter-connection attachment members to physically secure the mating of said second inter-connection attachment member with said first inter-connection attachment member means for securing said physically mated primary and secondary devices; and means for determining that said first and second inter-connection attachment means are securely mated;~~

~~said sensor sensing when said securing member has engaged said first and second inter-connection attachment members.~~

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2. (Currently Amended) An apparatus as defined in claim 14 further comprising means for indicating the status of the completion of the secure attachment of said secondary device to said primary device.

3. (Currently Amended) An apparatus as defined in claim 14 wherein said determining ~~detecting~~ means are associated with both devices and in communication with both device's individual inter-connection attachment means.

4. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for the secure physical attachment of a secondary device to a primary device, as defined in claim 1 further comprising:

a first inter-connection attachment means in physical association with said first device having one predefined non-rectangular geometric shape;

a second inter-connection attachment means in physical association with said second device, having a second predefined non-rectangular geometric shape wherein said second shape physically mates with said first geometric shape;

means for securing said physically mated primary and secondary devices;

means for determining that said first and second inter-connection attachment means are securely mated; and

controller means for halting at least one of said devices in the event that the attachment there between has not been secured.

5. (Currently Amended) An apparatus as defined in claim 14 further comprising controller means for receiving additional instructions in the event that said inter-connection has not been secured.

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6. (New) The system as claimed in claim 1, wherein said sensor senses a closed electrical circuit.

7. (New) The system as claimed in claim 6, wherein said securing member is conductive material;

said securing member creating the closed electrical circuit when said securing member has engaged said first and second inter-connection attachment members.

8. (New) The system as claimed in claim 1, wherein said first device includes an indicator, operatively connected to said sensor, to indicate that said securing member has engaged said first and second inter-connection attachment members.

9. (New) The system as claimed in claim 1, wherein said first device includes a controller operatively connected to said sensor.

10. (New) The system as claimed in claim 9, wherein said controller halts operations of said first device when said sensor has sensed that said securing member has not engaged said first and second inter-connection attachment members.

11. (New) The system as claimed in claim 9, wherein said controller halts operations of said second device when said sensor has sensed that said securing member has not engaged said first and second inter-connection attachment members.

12. (New) The system as claimed in claim 9, wherein said controller halts operations of said first and second devices when said sensor has sensed that said securing member has not engaged said first and second inter-connection attachment members.

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13. (New) A system for securing physical attachment, comprising:

a first device having a first inter-connection attachment member, said first inter-connection attachment member having a first predefined non-rectangular geometric shape;

said first inter-connection attachment member including a first sensor and a second sensor;

a second device having a second inter-connection attachment member, said second inter-connection attachment member having a second predefined non-rectangular geometric shape, said second predefined non-rectangular geometric shape and said first predefined non-rectangular geometric shape enabling said second inter-connection attachment member to mate with said first inter-connection attachment member; and

a securing member engaging said first and second inter-connection attachment members to physically secure the mating of said second inter-connection attachment member with said first inter-connection attachment member;

said first sensor sensing when said securing member has engaged said first and second inter-connection attachment members;

said second sensor sensing when said first device is in close proximity to said second device.

14. (New) The system as claimed in claim 13, wherein said first sensor senses a closed electrical circuit.

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15. (New) The system as claimed in claim 14, wherein said securing member is conductive material;

said securing member creating the closed electrical circuit when said securing member has engaged said first and second inter-connection attachment members.

16. (New) The system as claimed in claim 13, wherein said first device includes an indicator, operatively connected to said first sensor, to indicate that said securing member has engaged said first and second inter-connection attachment members.

17. (New) The system as claimed in claim 13, wherein said first device includes a controller operatively connected to said first sensor.

18. (New) The system as claimed in claim 17, wherein said controller halts operations of said first device when said first sensor has sensed that said securing member has not engaged said first and second inter-connection attachment members.

19. (New) The system as claimed in claim 17, wherein said controller halts operations of said second device when said first sensor has sensed that said securing member has not engaged said first and second inter-connection attachment members.

20. (New) The system as claimed in claim 17, wherein said controller halts operations of said first and second devices when said first sensor has sensed that said securing member has not engaged said first and second inter-connection attachment members.